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the interior of Greenland. Mr. Whympy was well known as one of the boldest and most successful of Alpine explorers; and the Geographical Society could not but anticipate important results from his projected expedition. He would start for Copenhagen on the 18th inst., sailing thence to Jacobshaven in Greenland in one of the Royal Danish Company's steamers. He need not say that they wished him God speed and every success.

*Eleventh Meeting, May 13th, 1867.*

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, BART., K.C.B., PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

PRESENTATIONS.—*A. H. Louis, Esq.; Thos. S. Whitaker, Esq.; W. Felkin, Jun., Esq.*

ELECTIONS.—*John Bridge, Esq.; Richard Brown, Esq., C.E.; Alexander A. Knox, Esq.; A. H. Louis, Esq.; D. G. Sandeman, Esq.; Frederick Smith, Esq.; Sir John Walsh, Bart, M.P.; Geo. M. Waterhouse, Esq.*

ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY, APRIL 8TH to MAY 18TH.—‘Sulle Stelle filanti del 10 Agosto, 1866.’ Donors, the Palermo Observatory. ‘The Calcutta Cyclone of the 5th October, 1864,’ by Lieut.-Col. J. E. Gastrell and H. F. Blandford, R.A. Donors, the Meteorological Committee Office, Calcutta. ‘The Open Polar Sea: Narrative of a Voyage of Discovery towards the North Pole,’ by Dr. I. I. Hayes. Purchased. ‘Six Years of a Traveller’s Life in West Africa,’ by Francisco Travassos Valdez. Donor, the Author. ‘The Electric Telegraph: Was it invented by Professor Wheatstone?’ 3 vols. Donor, Captain G. Arbuthnot, R.A. ‘Paraguay; its History, People, and Government,’ from the French of M. Quentin; 90 pages. ‘The River Plate (South America), a Field for Emigration,’ &c., 35 pages. ‘Brazil as a Field for Emigration,’ by Chas. Dunlop. Donors, Bates, Hendy & Co. ‘Central Argentine Railway: Report of Third Meeting, 1867.’ Donors, the Company. ‘28th Volume of the Memoirs of the Bureau Topographique de la Guerre de Russie.’ Donor, le Chef du Bureau. ‘Das Nordlichste Land der Erde,’ by Petermann, Berlin. ‘Wrecks and Casualties: Reports for 1866.’ Donors, the Wreck Committee of Lloyds. ‘Die Insel Mallorca,’ by H. H. Pagenstecher. Purchased. ‘General Missionary Atlas, from original sources,’ by the Rev. R. Grundemann. Donor, the Author. ‘Exploracion oficial por la Primera vez des de el Norte de la America del Sur,’ &c., by F. M. Y. Rojas. Purchased. ‘Geology and Agriculture,’ by E. St. J. Fairman. Donor, the Author. ‘Martin Hylacomylus Waltzmüller; ses Ouvrages et ses Collaborateurs. Par un Geographe Bibliophile.’

MAP ACCESSIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF APRIL 8TH, 1867.—Map of Lower and Upper Canada, by J. Bouchette; presented by Dr. Mac Loughlin. Native Maps of Japan and the City of Yedo; presented by Mr. Coysh, F.R.G.S. Maps of the Inter-Oceanic Canals and Railways between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans; presented by G. Welles, Esq., Secretary of the United States Navy. Maps of the Governments of Moscow, Nischni Novgorod, Viatka, and Vladimir; presented by W. Spottiswoode, Esq. Map of the Chinese Empire; presented by Dr. A. Petermann. Various MS. of Explorations in Vancouver Island, by R. W. Brown, Esq. 32 Sheets of Reyman's Map of Central Europe; by the Author. Map of the Tea Countries of Assam and Cachar, by Major Briggs; presented by A. K. Johnston, F.R.G.S. Ordnance Survey; 284 sheets. A view of the Village at Pitcairn's Island; discovery of the Mutineers of the *Bounty* by Capt. W. F. Beechey, in H.M.S. *Blossom*, in 1828; drawn by Admiral W. Smyth. Chart of the Arctic Regions, showing the discoveries of the *Fox*, Capt. Sir L. M'Clintock, &c.

Previous to the reading of the Paper, the PRESIDENT said he was happy to inform the meeting that, at the solicitation of the Society, as before announced, Her Majesty's Government had granted a certain sum of money towards fitting out a boat expedition in search of authentic news regarding Dr. Livingstone. It would be placed under the command of Mr. E. D. Young, who served two years under Livingstone in charge of the *Pioneer* and *Lady Nyassa* on the Shiré River, and who was well acquainted with the country and the character of the people. A steel boat would be built under the direction of the Admiralty, capable of being taken to pieces, so that it might be carried by land, past the rapids of the Shiré. She would be launched at the mouth of the Zambesi, with the aid of one of Her Majesty's cruisers; and, having procured a native crew, Mr. Young, and the three Englishmen he takes with him, would proceed to the north end of the Lake Nyassa; and arriving there, within twenty or thirty miles of the spot where it is said Livingstone was killed, they would ascertain whether the report of his death was a fable or not. It was not intended that this expedition should proceed through the interior in search of Livingstone, for if the traveller had once passed the territory haunted by the Mavite, he would have proceeded onwards to Lake Tanganyika, and the expedition would not be able to reach him. Their minds would, however, be set at rest, and they might hope that he would some day return to this country covered with greater glory than ever. With regard to the possibility of his having reached the far interior, Dr. Kirk had recently reported in a letter to him, that a caravan of Arab traders, coming from a village within ten miles of where Livingstone was reported to have been killed, a month or two after his supposed death, had reported to the Governor of Quiloa that they had heard nothing of it; but, on the contrary, that Livingstone had passed on into the friendly country of the Babisa tribe. This, he thought, was quite enough to satisfy them that they were right in sending out the expedition. In addition to this, he had received a letter that morning from Dr. Kirk, stating that a trader had recently arrived at Zanzibar, coming direct from Lake Tanganyika, who said that he saw and spoke with a white man on the borders of the lake. Now Tanganyika was the point to which Livingstone was directing his attention, with the view to determine whether that lake had an outflow to the north, and whether it might not be the ultimate lake-reservoir of the Nile. Dr. Kirk

said he had not spoken himself to the merchant, but had only heard the report of what he had said. If this trader had indeed met with a white man, the question was, Who was he? This report showed more than ever the propriety of the search which the Geographical Society had set on foot.

The following Paper was read :—

1. *Notes on Chinese Tartary.* By Capt. SHERARD OSBORN, R.N., C.B.

CAPTAIN OSBORN stated that he had written his memoir to accompany a carefully prepared diagram, which he now presented to the Society, of Chinese Tartary as it exists, so far as the treaties with Russia are concerned. He acknowledged the assistance he had received, in compiling the map, from the recent admirable Russian surveys of Eastern Siberia, and the map of the caravan routes in Central Asia, published by Colonel Walker, of the Trigonometrical Survey of Hindostan. Quoting from the geographical information which is contained in a publication issued in Canton some years ago, the 'Chinese Repository,' he proceeded to deal with the broad geographical features of Chinese Tartary, dividing it into the three great sections of Manchuria, Mongolia, and Ili, or, as it is sometimes erroneously called, Eastern Turkestan. Half of Manchuria, it was shown, had, by the Treaty of Tientsin in 1858, passed into Russian possession; but, owing to an almost impassable range of mountains being found to exist from the River Amur to the southern extreme, the communication between the Russian coast-settlements and Eastern Siberia was in no wise improved; but Captain Osborn hoped the day was not far distant when the Russians would come into possession of the whole of Manchuria, when, with the aid of the water communication of the Songari River and the port of Newchang, in the Gulf of Leotung, much would be done towards giving Russian Siberia that outlet to the seas of India and China which her rapidly increasing importance and commercial development justify the Russians in craving. The presence of Russian settlements so close to Peking, the lecturer argued, would act very healthily on the Chinese Government; and, so far as Great Britain is concerned, we ought, on every ground, to welcome any means of improved intercourse with Siberia, which, it must not be forgotten, now forms one of the largest and most powerful states in Asia. Passing to Mongolia, Captain Osborn then drew a picture of its physical condition, and called attention to the invasion of portions of China Proper by Mussulman hordes, flying before the pressure of Russian arms in Central Asia. He refuted the idea of the utter impracticability of the country for troops or armies, and, apart from the well known fact that in ages gone by the horsemen of this region marched west to the Danube, and south to the Tropic,